

Public Pulse

CPYRGHT

Fascinating Picture

Editor of the Daily News

Letter by letter, General Hester is painting a fascinating world picture for the readers of Public Pulse.

Some time ago (June 12, 1960) he described an East Asia where every prospect pleases and only America is vile. While Red China freed human slaves from a feudal tyranny by seizing Tibet, U.S. interference in Laotian internal affairs generates endless trouble in that unhappy land. But at least Red China gave MacArthur and our muscle-man Marine Corps what we deserved at the Yalu. I think it was Mr. Nehru who admonished us at the time that no nation can be expected to tolerate the establishment of a hostile government on its very borders.

It depends, of course, on what you call "hostile." For some reason Nehru gets almost as upset over the actions of his Chinese

neighbor to the north as we do about our neighbor to the south, and with as little justice. For as General Hester remarks, India's claim to the disputed territories has no better authority than the British imperialism of the past.

And when you come right down to it, this can be said of practically all of India, not to mention the United States.

General Hester added some finishing touches in his April 22 letter, "Too Late for the CIA." It is hard to escape the conclusion that in the Western Hemisphere, too, the U.S. is the chief architect of human misery and unrest. Eisenhower, who took office as the darling of James Warburg, has become a Stalin intent on crushing his own personal Tito; while Kennedy, white hope of the anti-imperialists, longs to re-enact

Khrushchev's Hungarian role at Cuba's expense. Since practically all of us voted for one or the other of these monsters, we share their guilt; and I dare say that if we ever suffer the fate of Chinese landlords or Tibetan counterrevolutionaries, few people outside of the U.S. will feel very sorry for us. Judging from our loyal liberal allies in Britain, this

sort of world-picture is spreading very rapidly.

Why have we committed these crimes against a dedicated humanist like Castro, who loves democracy as Tito loves Communism and is no more dangerous to us than Tito was to Russia? No informed person considers Castro's ties with Communism of the least importance; on the contrary, he challenges us to become a genuine humanist democracy like Cuba is.

And this is certainly lucky for us.

For as the general says, we have to learn to live with mavericks like Castro. Suppose Castro had been a real baddie, like Eisenhower or Kennedy or even Allen Dulles? We would have to live with him just the same.

Clearly, some Higher Power is watching over us—little though we imperialists deserve it.

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